

The Butterfly Garden



The Butterfly Garden is located at our Tumbleweed Regional Park. It is an open air butterfly garden of over 2000 square feet. It has over 100 plants that consist of 15 different varieties as well as a tree, all of which help to support the four different stages of a butterfly's life cycle. The Garden also has educational signs providing information on the different stages of a butterfly's life cycle, the migrating Monarchs, as well as the different butterflies the plants may attract.

The garden also serves as a Monarch Way Station, providing the milkweeds, nectar sources, and shelter needed to sustain monarch butterflies as they migrate through North America. Milkweeds and nectar sources that are vital to the Monarch butterflies' existence are declining due to the widespread use of herbicides and an increase in development of land. The increase in developing land for shopping centers, housing, and other developments has consumed the habitats that monarchs and other butterflies need. With herbicides becoming more commonly used for private homes and farming, milkweed and other nectar sources are unable to survive. This removes a major food source for the Monarchs and other butterflies, causing a steady decline in their population numbers.

The Butterfly Garden was the Girl Scout Gold Award Project of lifetime Chandler resident Katie Hartle of Troop 557. Katie is a graduate of the Chandler Unified School District and attends ASU. The Butterfly Garden was a community supported project. All items for the entire Garden were donated by local businesses and private citizens. Over 300 hours were spent on the Garden by volunteers, in addition to Katie's 128 hours. The Parks Division appreciates all the hard work and dedication in making this project possible for our park and for visitors to enjoy.